

## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2006, CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS: March is designated as Cambridge Women's History month, coinciding with National Women's History Month, and
- WHEREAS: Cambridge women of every race, class, and ethnicity and of every era of history have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of the life of the City, Commonwealth, and Nation, and
- WHEREAS: Cambridge women have been leaders, not only in securing their rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist, temperance, industrial labor rights, civil rights, peace, and other progressive movements, which have helped to create a more fair and just society, and
- WHEREAS: The Cambridge Young Women's Christian Association was founded in 1891 by members of the Cambridgeport chapter of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union for the purpose of providing a safe place for the increasing number of working women in Cambridge's industrial businesses to socialize and learn professional and practical skills, and
- WHEREAS: The Cambridge YWCA soon expanded its mission to include housing for women at several residences on Temple Street, and
- WHEREAS: The Cambridge YWCA increased its capabilities for outreach and service to women in 1911 when it completed construction on its Spanish Mission style building at 7 Temple Street designed by Newhall & Blevins architects, and when it constructed the residential addition on Bishop Allen Drive in 1964 and the new swimming pool facility in 1961, and
- WHEREAS: During the two world wars, the Cambridge YWCA led fundraising and clothing drives; sponsored dances for the entertainment of service personnel; provided women in the services a place to stay; and offered educational classes to teach women how to make their food, clothes and money stretch further during wartime, and
- WHEREAS: The Cambridge YWCA continues to be a leader in the community by offering women a safe place to live, learn, and socialize; remains dedicated to its mission to empower women and eliminate racism; and expands its programming opportunities for youth and adults while strengthening the organization and planning for its future, and
- WHEREAS: The Cambridge Women's Heritage Project will hold its annual celebration of International Women's Day in honor of the Cambridge YWCA on March 10, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. at 7 Temple Street, therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council reaffirms the significance of March 8 as International Women's Day and the month of March as Women's History Month, and further, be it
- RESOLVED: That the City Council remember, honor, and thank the women who founded, work and volunteer at, reside at, and lead the Cambridge YWCA into its next century of service to the women of the Cambridge community. On International Women's Day 2006 we salute the strong and compassionate women of the Cambridge YWCA.